

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT

Telangana Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Diversion of 0.2167 ha forest land (FP/TG/OFC/458280/2024) passing through Nagasamunder-I & II RFs of Vikarabad forest division of Vikarabad district along the road and within the existing Right of Way for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s.Bharti Airtel Limited– In-principle (Stage.I) approval accorded – Orders – Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 20

Dated: 01-03-2025
Read the following:-

1. Government of India, MoEF&CC(FC Division), New Delhi, Dt:29.12.2023 (Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications on Van(Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van(Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023).
2. From the PCCF (HoFF), T.G. Hyd., Ref.No.PCCF -FC3/FC15/65/2023-FCA Section, dt.03.01.2025.

ORDER:

In the letter 2nd read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests(HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad has submitted a proposal under section-2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, proposal for "diversion of 0.2167 ha forest land (FP/TG/OFC/458280/2024) passing through Nagasamunder-I & II RFs of Vikarabad forest division of Vikarabad district along the road and within the existing Right of Way for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s.Bharti Airtel Limited.

2. The proposal has been examined with reference to the guidelines issued by the Government of India in the letter 1st read above.

3. Government after careful examination of the proposal and in exercise of the powers delegated to State Government in the guidelines issued by Government of India in the letter 1st read above, hereby accord in-principle (Stage.I) approval proposal for diversion of 0.2167 ha forest land (FP/TG/OFC/458280/2024) passing through Nagasamunder-I & II RFs of Vikarabad forest division of Vikarabad district along the road and within the existing Right of Way for laying of Optical Fiber Cable in favour of M/s.Bharti Airtel Limited, subject to compliance of the following conditions:-

- i. The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. Demarcation of the forest land diverted: The State Forest Department shall carry out demarcation of the proposed forest area by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters by the concerned District Forest Officer/ Forest Divisional Officer; utilizing the monies deposited by User Agency for the purpose before handover of the forest land to User Agency.
- iii. Compensatory Afforestation(CA): As per the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 issued by GoI, MoEF&CC (FC Division), Dt.29.12.2023 under Rule 13.(5)(B), "a condition may be imposed in Stage-I approval for raising of 100 plants in forest land at the cost of User Agency towards Compensatory Afforestation.

(PTO)

- iv. Net Present Value: The project is exempted from payment of NPV as the area proposed for diversion is outside of Protected Area and no tree felling is involved;
- v. The User Agency shall explore the possibility of translocation of maximum number of trees identified to be felled and shall ensure that any tree felling shall be done only when it is unavoidable and that too under strict supervision of the State Forest Department ;
- vi. User Agency shall fulfill the conditions stipulated in Part II, Part III and Part IV and also covering letters, inspections notes of the proposals;
- vii. The depth of the trench shall not be more than 2 m and width shall not be more than 0.45 m and after laying down of optical fiber cable the ground shall be leveled. The cable line should be laid atleast one meter below the ground;
- viii. labour camp shall be established on the forest land and the User Agency shall provide firewood preferably alternate fuels to the labourers and the staff working at the sight so as to avoid any damage and pressure on the nearby forest areas
- ix. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- x. The muck generated in the earth cutting if any, will be disposed off at the designated sites and in no case the muck/ debris will be disposed off in the forest area by the User Agency'
- xi. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agency, department or person without prior approval of Central Government;
- xii. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India as well as State Forest Department/ PCCF(HoFF) may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife, shall be complied by the User Agency;
- xiii. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.2167 ha and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
- xiv. The User Agency to make good the land after use/ maintenance;
- xv. The User Agency to make good any loss to forests / environment;
- xvi. The User Agency should take permission for carrying out any maintenance;
- xvii. Work should be carried out during day time only;
- xviii. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance of all the Court orders, provisions, rules, regulations and guidelines for the time being in force as applicable to the project;
- xix. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).

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- xx. The User Agency shall submit the annual self-compliance report in respect of the above stated conditions to the State Government, concerned Regional Office and to this Ministry by the end of March every year regularly.
- xxi. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of Comprehensive Guidelines of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 as issued by this Ministry's letter dated.29.12.2023.
4. This in-principle (Stage-I) approval shall be valid for a period of two years from the date of issue of this G.O. in the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, the in-principle (Stage-I) approval shall automatically stand revoked after two years.
5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad, is therefore, directed to take further necessary action accordingly in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

AHMAD NADEEM
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Director General, Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division),
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi
110 003.

The Regional Office(SEZ),
Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change,
1st and 2nd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council,
34, Cathedral Garden Road,
Nungambakkam, Chennai -34

The Inspector General of Forests(C),
Suboffice, MoEF&CC, Hyderabad,
Regional Office, Chennai,
6th Floor, Aranya bhavan, Hyderabad

The M/s.Bharti Airtel Limited, 1-8-437,438,364 & 445,
Splendid Towers,Opp:Begumpet Police Station,
Huda road, Begumpet, Hyderabad-500016.

SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER